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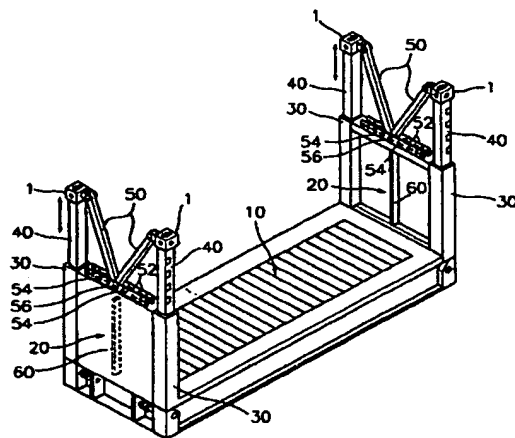
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(54) Title: CONTAINER FOR SHIP CAPABLE OF HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT



(57) Abstract: In a container for a ship capable of adjusting height thereof, a mobile post capable of adjusting its height is more firmly supported with a simple structure. A container for a ship capable of adjusting height thereof includes a bottom plate on which goods are placed, a wall plate installed to erect at one side of the bottom plate, a fixed post installed at the wall plate, a mobile post installed at the fixed post and capable of ascending and descending by being guide by the fixed post over a predetermined length with respect to the fixed post, and a support bar having one end portion hinge-coupled to the mobile post and the other end portion fixed to the wall plate to support the mobile post at an angle. Thus, the strength of the mobile post is reinforced when the mobile post ascends; a load concentrating on the mobile post is distributed by the inclined structure so that a firm support is possible; durability of a product can be improved; by forming the key protrusion on the pin, more firm fixing and easy use are made possible; when the mobile post is completely lowered, the support bars are folded and included so that the volume of the support bars is minimized; and automatic ascending and descending of the mobile post is possible.



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CONTAINER FOR A SHIP CAPABLE OF HE

Technical Field

The present invention relates to a container for a ship capable of
5 adjusting height thereof, and more particularly, to a container for a ship
capable of adjusting height thereof in which a mobile post capable of
adjusting its height is more firmly supported with a simple structure and
simultaneously the height of the mobile posts can be fixed.

10 Background Art

In general, a container for a ship is widely used as a device for
holding goods in water transportation. The container for a ship has a
space inside to hold goods and is referred to as a transportation
equipment having a box shape manufactured according to a set
15 specification to be used with interlink with at least one transportation
method.

The containers can be accumulated on a ship so that a large
quantity of goods can be transported. Also, the container is widely
used because it is counted as a unit of delivery during loading or
20 unloading work.

However, since a conventional container for a ship cannot adjust
its height, when goods having height over the height of the container is
loaded, the container must be placed on the top layer of the stacked
containers because other containers cannot be stacked thereon, or an
25 additional fee must be paid for an unused space above the over-height
container.

To solve the above problem a container for a ship capable of
adjusting its height by installed a mobile post that can be raised or
lowered at a fixed post has been developed. However, the
30 conventional height adjustable container has a problem that the mobile
post having a limited strength according to a general specification

cannot endure several or tens of tons conc
prevents realization of the container.

Also, since a load is concentrated on a pin for fixing the height by
penetrating the mobile post and a pinhole, the pin is easily damaged.

5

Disclosure of the Invention

To solve the above problems, it is an object of the present
invention to provide a container for a ship capable of adjusting height
thereof in which a strength of a mobile post is reinforced when the
10 mobile post is raised, a load concentrated on the mobile post is
distributed by an inclined structure so that the mobile pos can be more
firmly supported, and durability of the container can be improved.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a container
for a ship capable of adjusting height thereof in which a pin is installed at
15 a support bar to prevent a load overly acting on the pin and a pinhole for
fixing the height, and a key protrusion is formed on the pin to enable firm
fixing and facilitate an easy use thereof.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a container
for a ship capable of adjusting height thereof in which, when the mobile
20 post is completely lowered, a volume occupied by the support bar that is
included and folded can be minimized.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a container
for a ship capable of adjusting height thereof in which the mobile post
can be automatically lifted.

25 To achieve the above objects, there is provided a container for a
ship capable of adjusting height thereof comprising a bottom plate on
which goods are placed, a wall plate installed to erect at one side of the
bottom plate, a fixed post installed at the wall plate, a mobile post
installed at the fixed post and capable of ascending and descending by
30 being guide by the fixed post over a predetermined length with respect to
the fixed post, and a support bar having one end portion hinge-coupled

to the mobile post and the other end portion 1
support the mobile post at an angle.

It is preferred in the present invention that the one end portion of
the support bar is hinge-coupled to a corner cast of each of the fixed
5 posts installed at the left and right sides of the wall plate at one side of
the bottom plate and the other end portion is hinge-coupled by a pin
penetrating one of a plurality of pinholes formed in both fixed plates
horizontally formed on an upper surface of the wall plate parallel to each
other, so that the fixed posts are supported and fixed as a pair of the
10 support bars, supporting the mobile posts and facing each other, cross in
form of "V" or "X".

It is preferred in the present invention that the mobile post is
completely lowered, the support bars are folded parallel to each other to
be included between both fixed plates.

15 It is preferred in the present invention that an actuator is installed
at the other end portion of each support bar so that the mobile post is
automatically ascends or descends as the position of the other end
portion of the support bar changes.

20 Brief Description of the Drawings

FIG. 1 is a perspective view showing a container for a ship
capable of adjusting height thereof according to a preferred embodiment
of the present invention;

FIGS. 2 through 4 are side views showing the operation of the
25 container of FIG. 1, step by step;

FIG. 5 is a plan view of the container by magnifying a portion of
support bars of FIG. 2;

FIG. 6 is a side view showing the interval of pinholes in a fixed
plate of FIG. 1;

30 FIG. 7 is an exploded perspective view showing the pin of FIG. 1;

FIG. 8 is a front view showing the state in which a piston of an

actuator installed between fixed posts and a t
reclining the fixed posts and wall plates is compressed;

FIG. 9 is a sectional view taken along line A-A of FIG. 8;

FIG. 10 is a sectional view taken along line B-B of FIG. 8;

5 FIG. 11 is a front view showing a state in which the piston of the
actuator extends;

FIG. 12 is a view showing another preferred embodiment of the
actuator of FIG. 8; and

FIG. 13 is a view showing yet another preferred embodiment of
10 the actuator of FIG. 8.

Best mode for carrying out the Invention

A container for a ship capable of adjusting height thereof
according to a preferred embodiment of the present invention will be
15 described in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings.

First, as shown in FIG. 1, a container for a ship capable of
adjusting height thereof according to a preferred embodiment of the
present invention is a flat lock container for a ship having open upper
and lateral sides and includes a bottom plate 10, a wall plate 20, a fixed
20 post 30, a mobile post 40, and a support bar 50.

Here, the bottom plate 10 is a flat plate having an iron frame on
which goods are placed. Also, the wall plate 20 is a flat plate having an
iron frame that is hinge-coupled to the bottom plate 10 so that it is
completely folded onto the bottom plate 10 or erected upright with
25 respect to the bottom plate 10.

The fixed post 30 is box-shaped and installed both sides of the
wall plate 20. The mobile post 40 is inserted into the fixed post 30 and
slides and moves up and down therein. The mobile post 40 having a
bar shape is inserted in the fixed post 30 and guided by the fixed post 30
30 so that it can freely move up and down over a predetermined height.

The support bar 50 of the present invention has one side end

portion hinge-coupled to the mobile post 40 f
post 40 at an angle and the other end portion fixed to the wall plate 20.
The one end portion of the support bar 50 is hinge-coupled to a corner
cast 1 of each of the mobile post 40 and the other end portion thereof is
5 hinge-coupled by a pin 56 penetrating one of a plurality of pinholes 54 of
both fixed plates 52 horizontally formed in parallel on the upper surface
of the wall plate 20.

Here, as shown in FIG. 2, when the mobile post 40 is completely
lowered, both support bars 50 reclines horizontally in form of "11" to be
10 included between both fixed plates 52. When the mobile post 40
ascends to the middle height, as shown in FIG. 3, both support bars 50
cross in form of "X" to support and fix the both fixed posts 30. When
the mobile post 40 is completely lifted, as shown in FIG. 4, both support
bars 50 cross in form of "V" to support both fixed posts 30 at an angle.

15 The pinholes 54, as shown in FIG. 7, are formed parallel to the
fixed plates 52 according to the height that the mobile post 40 ascends.
A key groove 54a for fixing the pin 56 inserted therein is formed at one
side of each pinhole 54.

Here, as shown in FIG. 7, the pin 56 includes a pin column 561, a
20 key protrusion 562, and a rotational handle 563. The pin column 561
has a shape of a cylinder to be inserted into the pinhole 54. The key
protrusion 562 is formed at the side of the pin column 561 and has a
shape corresponding to the key groove 54a formed in the fixed plates 52.

The rotational handle 563 is formed perpendicular to one end portion of
25 the pin column 561.

Thus, when the pin 56 is inserted into the pinhole 54, a worker
holding the rotational handle 563 rotates the pin column 561 together
with the key protrusion 562, such that the key protrusion 562 fits to the
key groove 54a formed in the pinhole 54, and inserts the pin 56 into the
30 pinhole 54. When the pin column 561 is completely inserted into the
pinhole 54, the rotational handle 563 is rotated so that the pin 56 does

not escape from the pinhole 54. Accordingly,
locked to the key groove 54a so that the pin 56 does not escape
therefrom.

Then, when the pin 56 is drawn from the pinhole 54, the pin
5 column 561 is rotated together with the key protrusion 562 by the
rotational handle 563 until the key protrusion 562 fits to the key groove
54a, so that the pin 56 can be drawn.

Here, the key groove 54a formed in the pinhole 54 to be inclined
at an angle with respect to a direction of gravity (downward).
10 Accordingly, as the rotational handle 563 and the key protrusion 562 of
the pin 56 inserted into the pinhole 54 normally face downward due to
their weight, the key protrusion 562 is preferably deviated from the key
groove 54a and fixed thereby.

Fixing means having a variety of types and shapes can be used
15 as the pin 56 and the pinhole 54 for fixing the support bars 50.
Technologies on the fixing means are well known and can be easily
modified by those skilled in the art.

As shown in FIGS. 2 and 5, when the mobile post 40 is completely
lowered, the support bars 50 according to the present invention are
20 folded to be included between both fixed plates 52 and reclined in form
of "11" parallel to each other. Here, each of the support bars 50 is fixed
by the pin 56 inserted into the pinhole 54 that is formed farthest from the
center in the fixed plates 52. Thus, when the mobile post 40 is
completely lowered, volume occupied by the support bars 50 that is
25 folded and included can be minimized.

As shown in FIG. 6, the pinhole 54 is formed at several positions
in the fixed plates 52 according to the height of elevation of the mobile
post 40. To control the height of the mobile post 40 with the same
interval, the interval between the pinholes 54 is greater in the central
30 portion of the fixed plate 52 and narrower at the both end portions of the
fixed plates 52.

As shown in FIGS. 1 through 5, a reinforcement member 60 is vertically supporting the center of the wall plate 20 may be further installed to distribute a force concentrated on the central portion of the fixed plate 52. Since the types and shapes of the reinforcement member 60 are various, modification thereof can be easily done by those skilled in the art.

An actuator including a hydraulic cylinder or motor can be installed at the other end portion of the support bar 50 that is fixed at the wall plate 20 so that the mobile post 40 is automatically moved up and down as the position of the other end portion changes. That is, although not shown, a rail can be formed on the upper surface of the wall plate 20 so that the other end portion of the support bar 50 can slide on the rail, and a screw rod that is moved back and forth by a hydraulic cylinder or a motor is installed at the other end portion of the support bar 50, so that the mobile post 40 can automatically move up and down by an angle of the support bar 50.

Since the technology about the actuator is well known and already commercialized, those skilled in the art can modify the actuator within a range of technical concept of the present invention.

Thus, in the container for a ship capable of adjusting height thereof according to the present invention, the support bars 50 are normally kept in form of "11" to minimize its volume, as shown in FIG. 2. When the size of goods is greater than the height of the wall plate 20, the mobile post 40 is raised and the pin 56 is inserted into the pinhole 54 and a through hole (50a) formed in the other end portion of the support bar 50. Accordingly, the support bar 50 is fixed in form of "X" or "V" and the mobile post 40 is firmly fixed.

Thus, when goods having heights over the height of the container are to be loaded, the mobile post 40 is raised over the height of the goods so that other containers can be stacked above the container, thus reducing an additional transportation cost much.

Also, since a thrust structure (a triangle s
of several or tens of tons acting on the mobile post 40, strength and
durability of a product are greatly improved. A load concentrated on the
pin 56 and the pinhole 54 is distributed to the mobile post 40 so that
5 durability of parts can be improved.

The container for a ship capable of adjusting height thereof
according to the present invention, as shown in FIGS. 8 through 11, an
actuator (not shown) for lifting or reclining the fixed post 30 and the wall
plate 20 with respect to the bottom plate 10 is installed to reduce space
10 needed for keeping the fixed post 30 and the wall plate 20.

That is, the fixed post 30 and the wall late 20 are installed to be
hinge-coupled to be folded onto the bottom plate 10. The actuator
erects or reclines the fixed post 20 and the wall plate 20 between the
fixed post 30 and the bottom plate 10. Although a variety of actuators
15 having different types and shapes can be installed, preferably, a
hydraulic actuator 70 shown in FIG. 8 through 11, or a mechanical
actuator 80 shown in FIGS. 12 and 13, can be installed.

Here, the hydraulic actuator 70 includes a hydraulic jack 72 and a
pressing rod 74. The hydraulic actuator 70 is fixed to the bottom plate
20 10. The piston 10 is extended or contracted as a detachable lever 71 is
moved up and down so that working oil is pumped into a cylinder and the
piston 73 is elevated by a hydraulic force.

Also, the pressing rod 74 is a link assembly which has one end
portion hinge-coupled to the bottom plate 10 using the rule of a lever, a
25 middle portion hinge-coupled to one end of the piston 73, and the other
end portion contacting the fixed post 30. When the piston 73 expands,
the other end portion of the pressing rod 74 presses the fixed post 30 to
erect the fixed post 30.

Thus, to erect the fixed post 30, the hydraulic jack 72 is pumped
30 by using the detachable lever 71 inserted into the hydraulic jack 72
shown in FIGS. 8 and 9, so that the piston 73 expands. When the

piston 73 extends and presses the middle portic
the other end portion of the pressing rod 74 presses a round protrusion
30a of the fixed protrusion 30 according to the rule of a lever because
the one end portion of the pressing rod 74 is hinge-coupled. Thus, the
5 fixed post 30 can be vertically erected, as shown in FIG. 11.

Also, to recline the erected fixed post 30, a pressure exhaust
valve (not shown) is open to decrease pressure in the cylinder of the
hydraulic jack 72 so that the fixed post 30 is gradually reclined.

The above actuator can be configured with a variety of types and
10 forms. A mechanical actuator 80, as shown in FIGS. 12 and 13, can be
used to accurately control the erection and folding operation of the fixed
post by rotating a rotational shaft 81 in a forward or reverse direction.

That is, as shown in FIG. 12, the mechanical actuator 80 includes
a mechanical jack 82 and the pressing rod 74 of FIG. 8. The
15 mechanical jack 82 is fixed at the bottom plate 10 and a jack end portion
83 is extended and contracted by means of the forward/reverse
directional rotation of the rotational shaft 81.

As an example of the mechanical jack, as shown in FIG. 12, a
screw type jack may be used which extends or contracts the jack end
20 portion 83 by means of a mobile portion 86 reciprocating to face each
other along a double screw rod 85 connected to a detachable rotating
rod 84 and a link rod 87 link-coupled to the mobile portion 86.

Also, a gear type jack, as shown in FIG. 13, may be used as
another example of the mechanical jack 82. In the gear type jack, a
25 forward/reverse rotational motion of the rotational shaft 811 connected to
a detachable rotational rod 841 is converted to a rotational motion to a
boss 91 by using a bevel gear assembly 90. Thus, a mobile screw 92
screw-coupled to a boss 91 extends or contracts as moving up and down
according to the rotation of the boss 91.

30 Thus, by manually rotating the detachable rotational rod 841 in a
forward/reverse direction or by connecting it to an automatic motor 93 to

be selectively rotated in a forward/reverse direction. The mobile post 30 can be erected or folded and simultaneously a folding angle or speed can be freely controlled. When the rotational shaft 811 is not rotated, since the fixed post 30 maintains a folding state as is, a damage to a worker due to an abrupt falling of the fixed post 30 can be prevented.

It is obvious that the present invention is not limited to the above-described preferred embodiment and can be modified by those skilled in the art within a range of a technical concept of the present invention.

For example, although in the above-described preferred embodiment the present invention is applied to a flat lock container for a ship, the present invention can be applied to all other containers. Also, the pin and pinhole are used as a fixing means in the above preferred embodiment, other various fixing means can be used for this purpose.

Thus, the scope of claiming the right in the present invention must be defined by the following claims and technical concepts thereof, not within the scope of the above detailed specification.

Industrial Applicability

As described above, in the container for a ship capable of adjusting height thereof according to the present invention, the strength of the mobile post is reinforced when the mobile post ascends; a load concentrating on the mobile post is distributed by the inclined structure so that a firm support is possible; durability of a product can be improved; by forming the key protrusion on the pin, more firm fixing and easy use are made possible; when the mobile post is completely lowered, the support bars are folded and included so that the volume of the support bars is minimized; and automatic ascending and descending of the mobile post is possible.

What is claimed is:

1. A container for a ship capable of adjusting height thereof comprising:

a bottom plate on which goods are placed;

5 a wall plate installed to erect at one side of the bottom plate;

a fixed post installed at the wall plate;

a mobile post installed at the fixed post and capable of ascending and descending by being guide by the fixed post over a predetermined length with respect to the fixed post; and

10 a support bar having one end portion hinge-coupled to the mobile post and the other end portion fixed to the wall plate to support the mobile post at an angle.

2. The container of claim 1, wherein the one end portion of
15 the support bar is hinge-coupled to a corner cast of each of the fixed posts installed at the left and right sides of the wall plate at one side of the bottom plate and the other end portion is hinge-coupled b a pin penetrating one of a plurality of pinholes formed in both fixed plates horizontally formed on an upper surface of the wall plate parallel to each
20 other, so that the fixed posts are supported and fixed as a pair of the support bars, supporting the mobile posts and facing each other, cross in form of "V" or "X".

3. The container of claim 2, wherein, when the mobile post is
25 completely lowered, the support bars are folded parallel to each other to be included between both fixed plates.

4. The container of claim 2, wherein the pinholes are formed according to the height that the mobile post ascends or descends and a
30 key groove is formed at one side of each pinhole, and
the pin comprises a pin body inserted into the pinhole, a key

protrusion having a shape corresponding to rotational handle formed at one end portion of the pin body.

5 5. The container of claim 1, wherein an actuator is installed at the other end portion of each support bar so that the mobile post is automatically ascends or descends as the position of the other end portion of the support bar changes.

10 6. The container of claim 1, wherein the fixed post and the wall plate are hinge-coupled to the bottom plate to be capable of erected or reclined with respect to the bottom plate to reduce a space for keeping, and an actuator for erecting or reclining the fixed post and the wall plate is installed between the fixed post and the bottom plate.

15 7. The container of claim 6, wherein the actuator comprises:
a hydraulic jack fixed to the bottom plate and extending and contracting a piston by using an elevating motion of a detachable lever, and

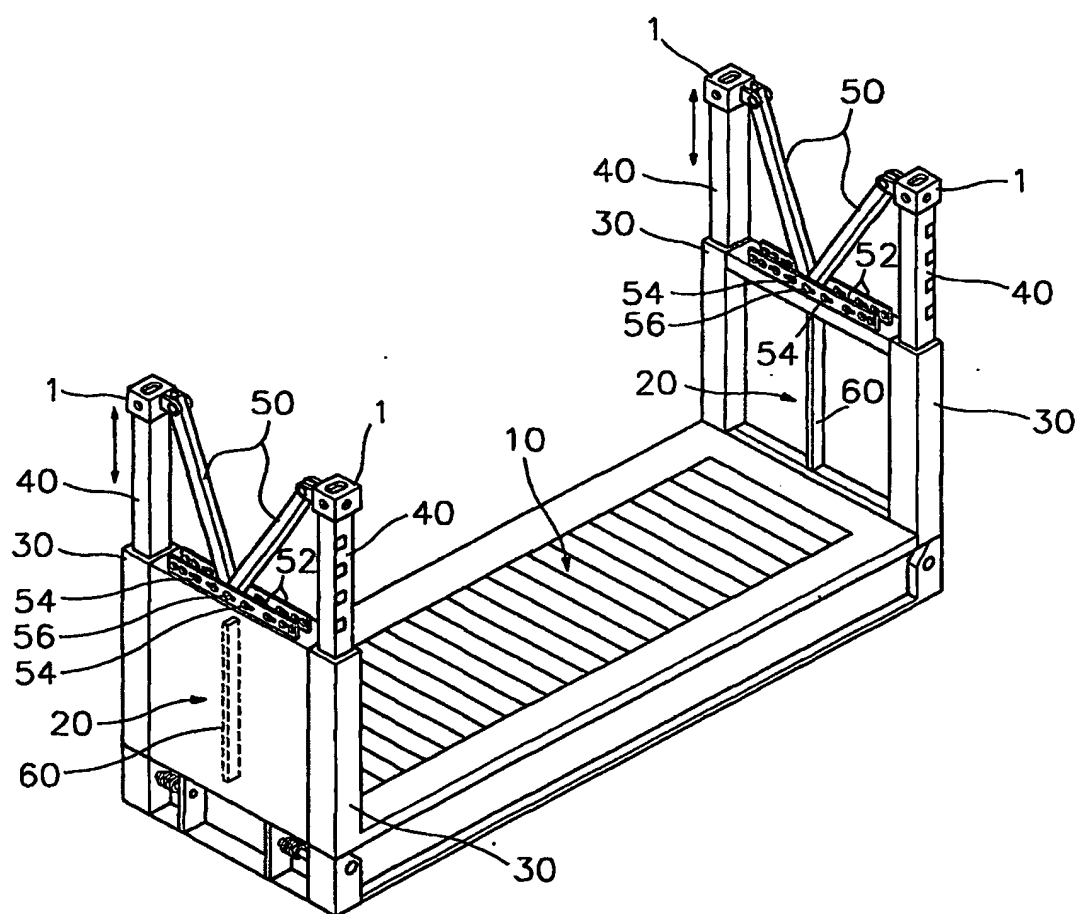
20 a pressing rod having one end portion hinge-coupled to the bottom plate, a middle portion hinge-coupled to an end portion of the piston, and the other end portion contacting the fixed post, and pressing and erecting the fixed post as the piston extends.

25 8. The container of claim 6, wherein the actuator comprises:
a mechanical jack fixed to the bottom plate and extending and contracting a jack end portion by using forward/reverse rotational motion of a rotational shaft, and

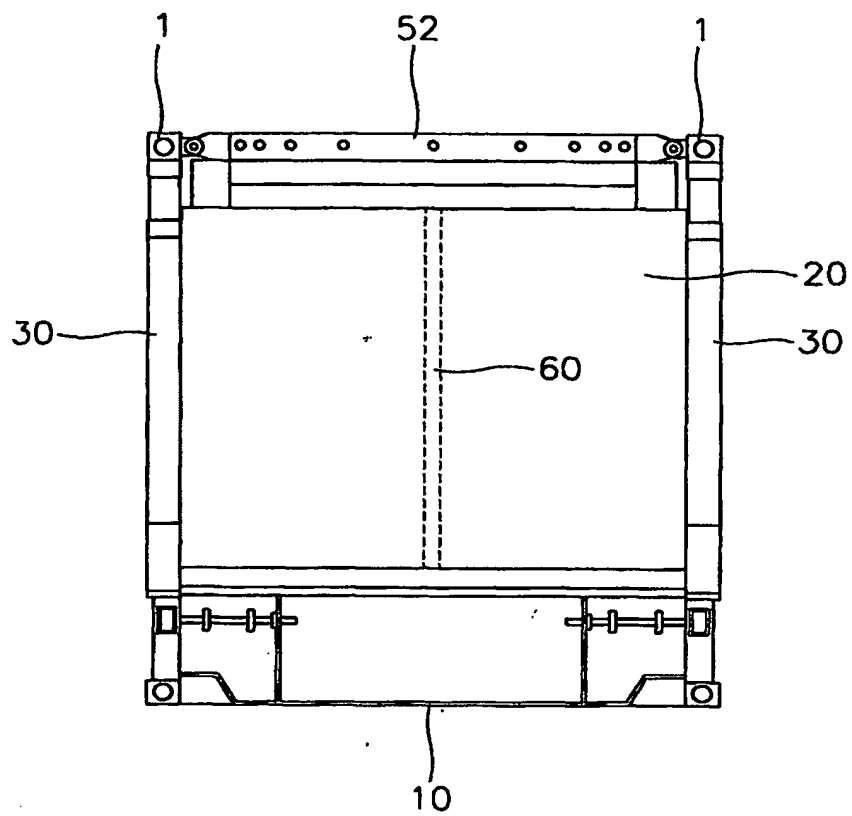
30 a pressing rod having one end portion hinge-coupled to the bottom plate, a middle portion hinge-coupled to one side of the jack end portion, and the other end portion contacting the fixed post, and pressing and erecting the fixed post as the piston extends.

9. The container of claim 8, wherein the mechanical jack extends and contracts the jack end portion by using a gear assembly or a double screw rod, and the rotational rod is automatically rotated by a
5 manual or portable motor in the forward/reverse direction.

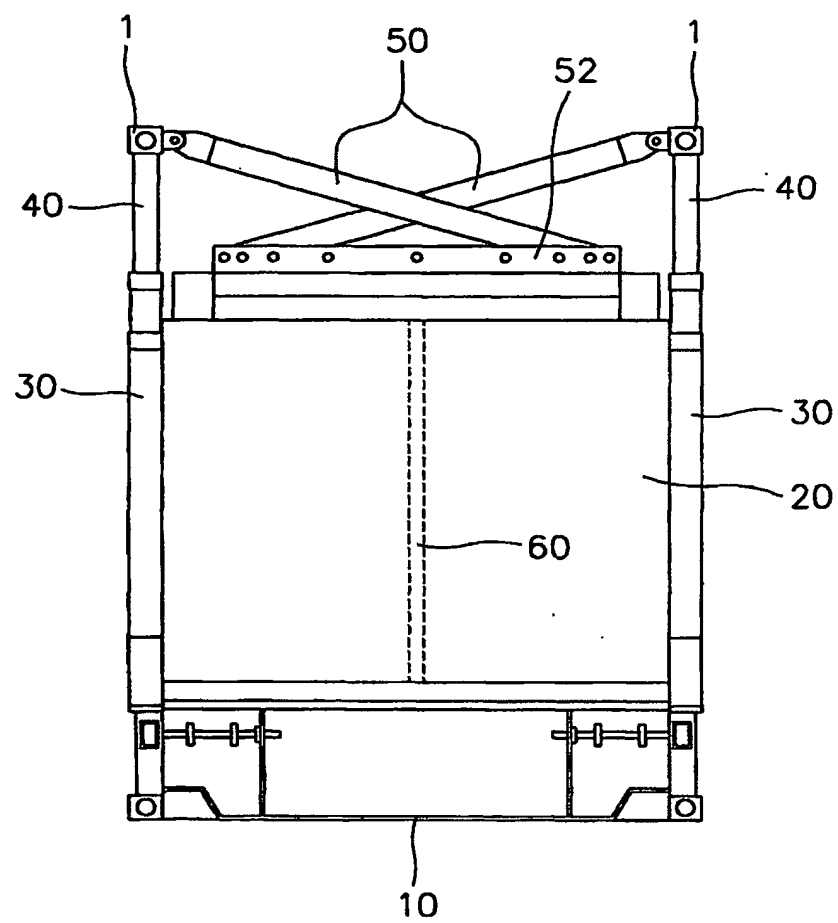
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FIG. 1



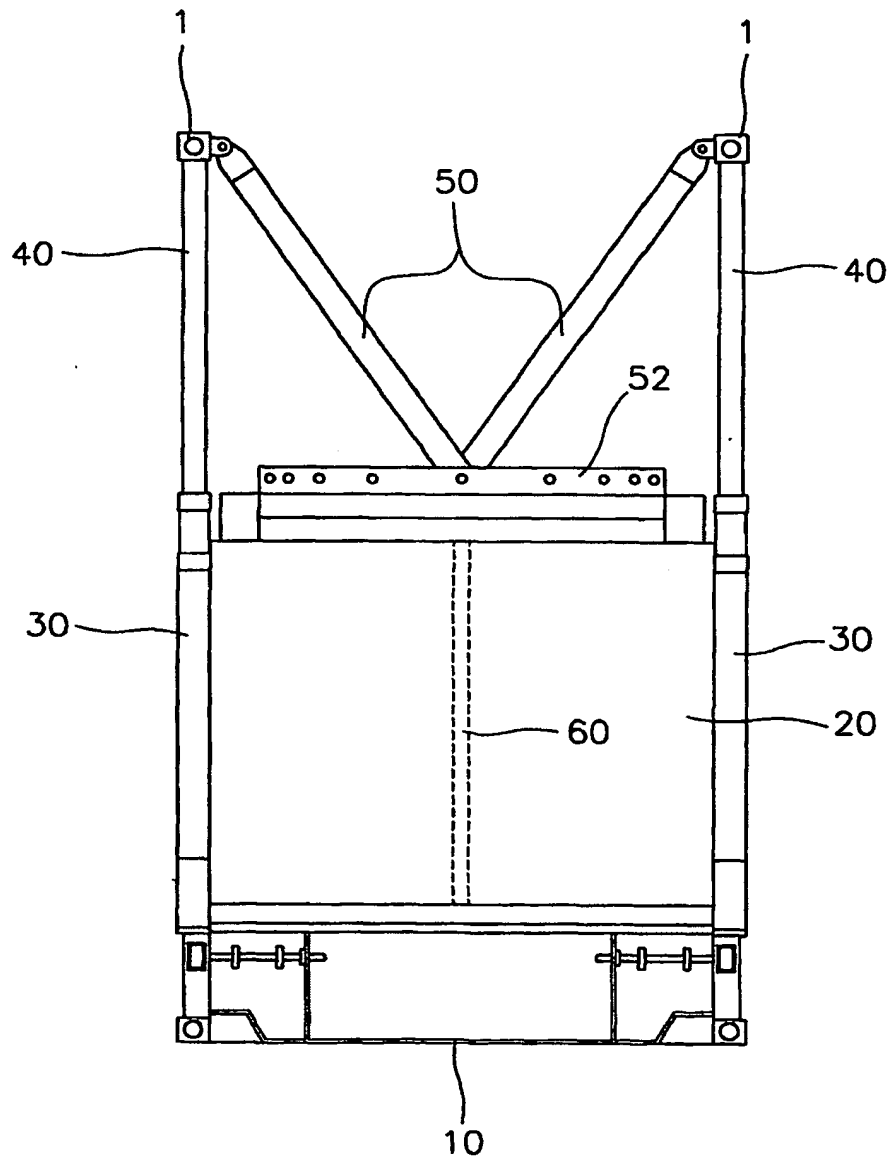
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FIG. 2



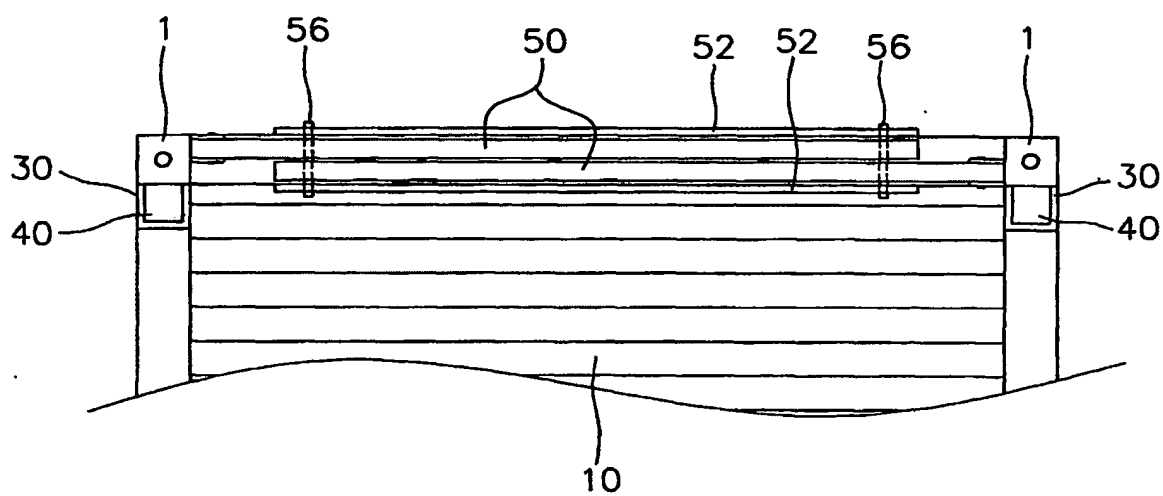
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FIG. 3



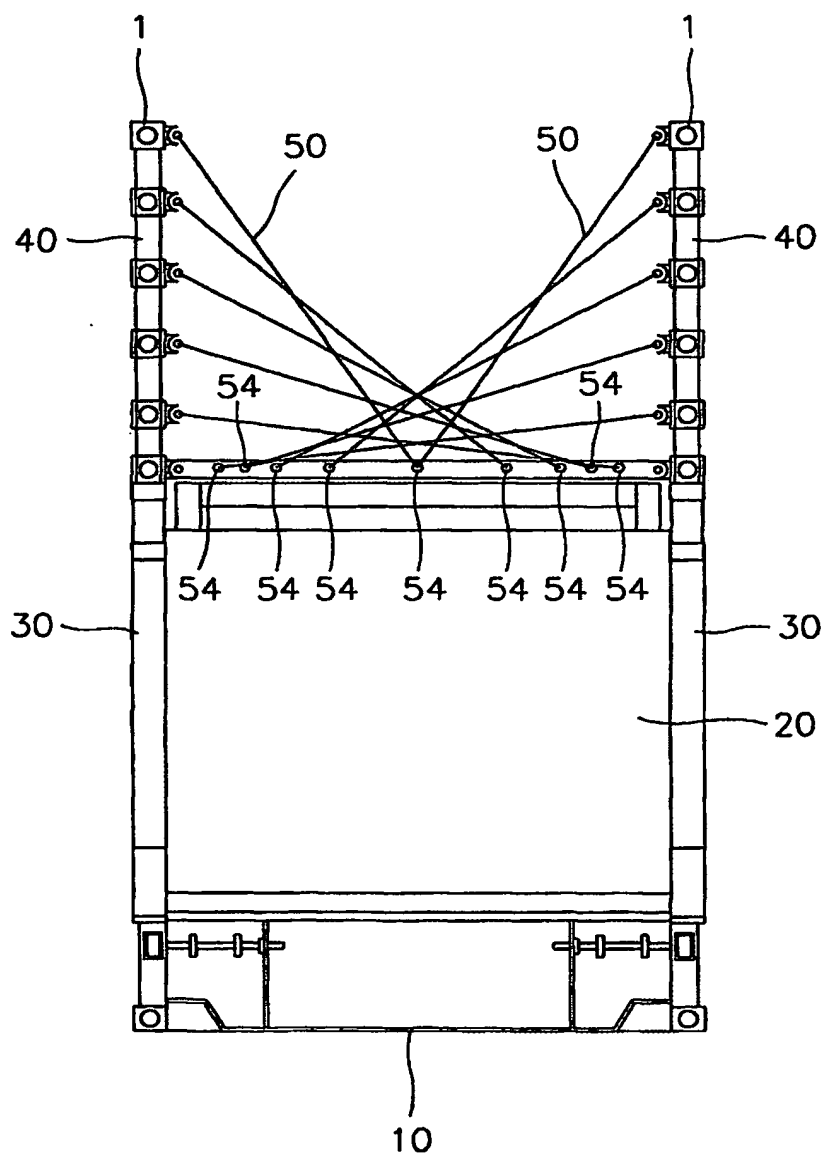
4/11
FIG. 4



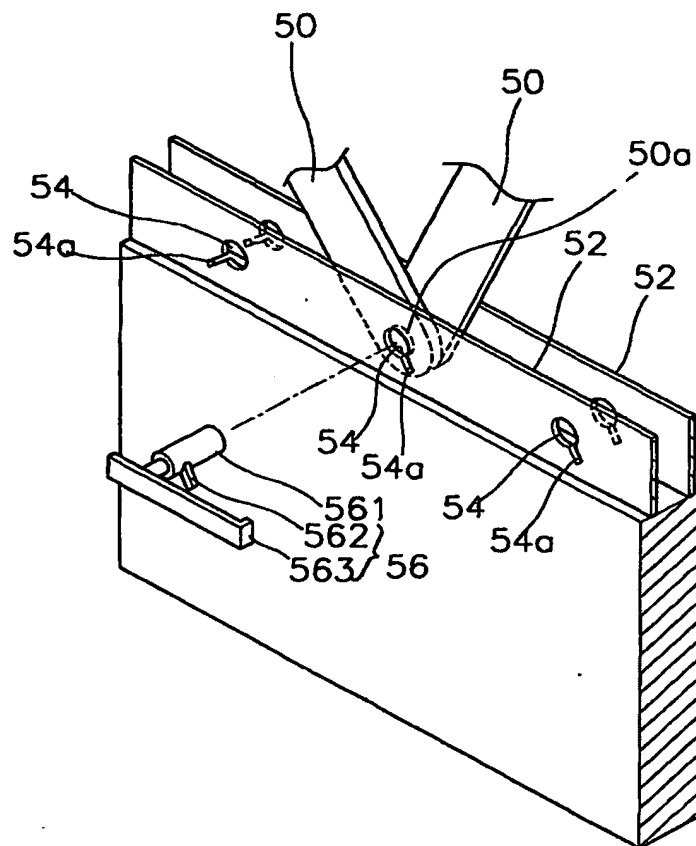
5/11
FIG. 5



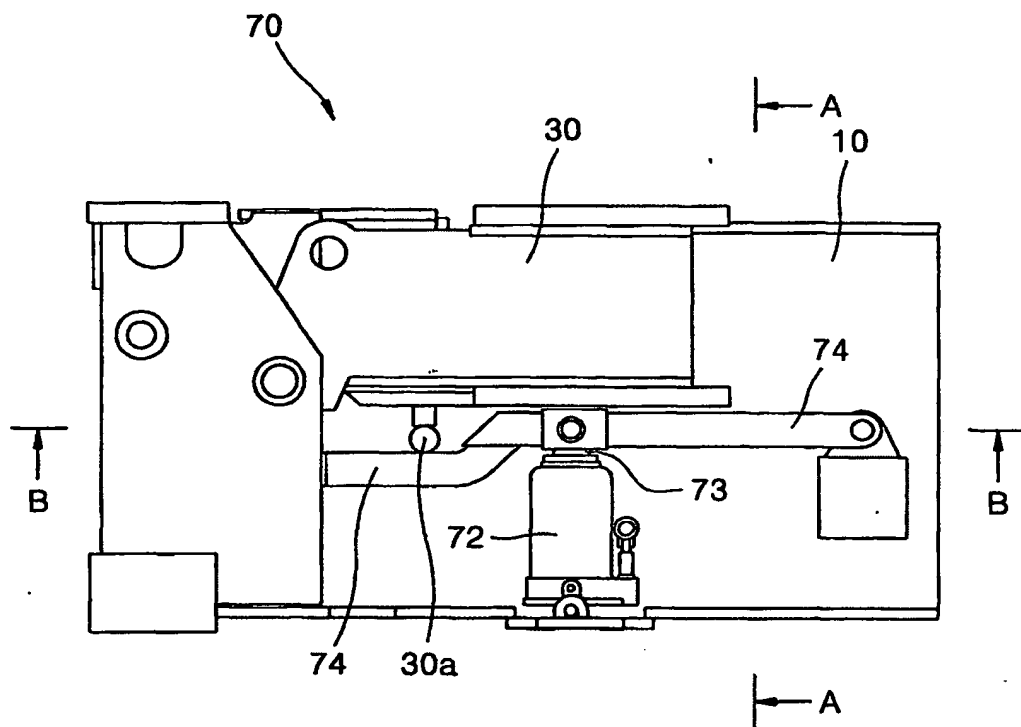
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FIG. 6



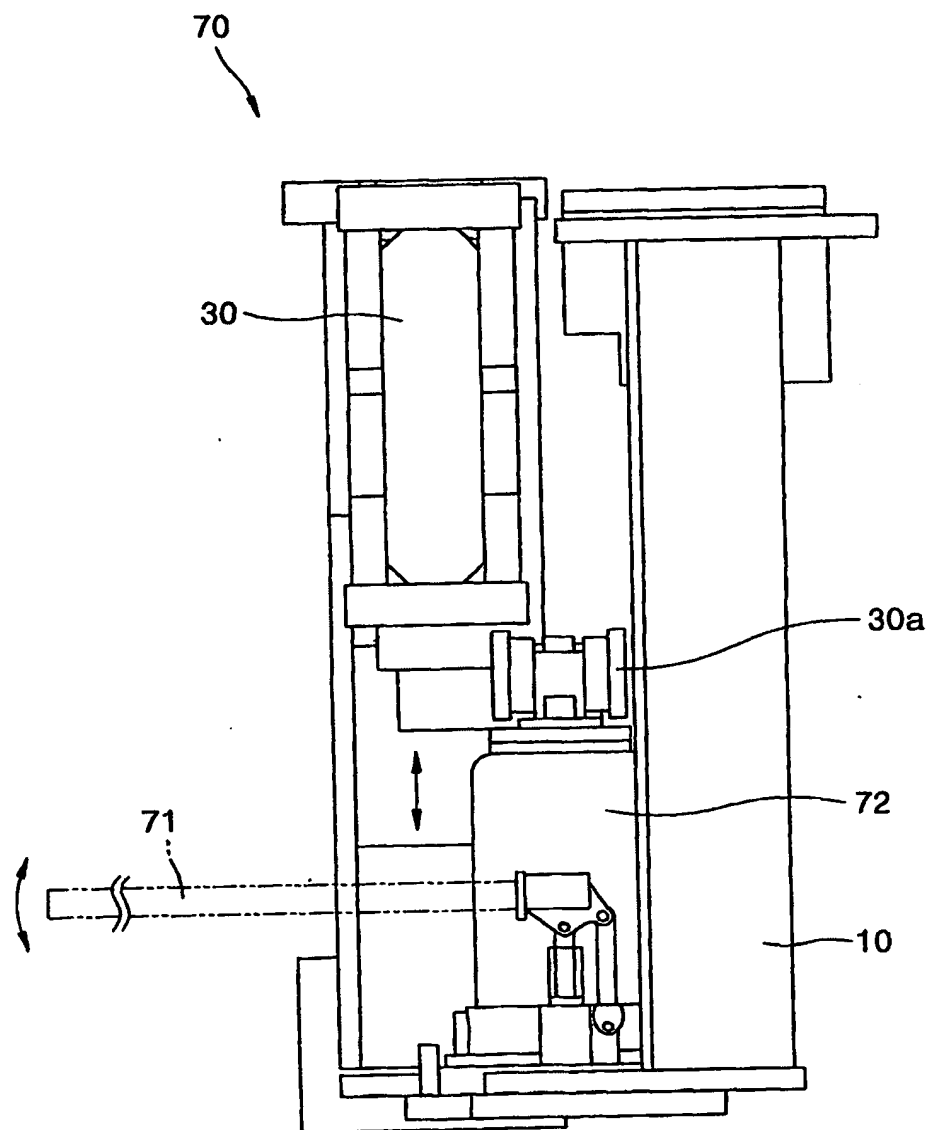
7/11
FIG. 7



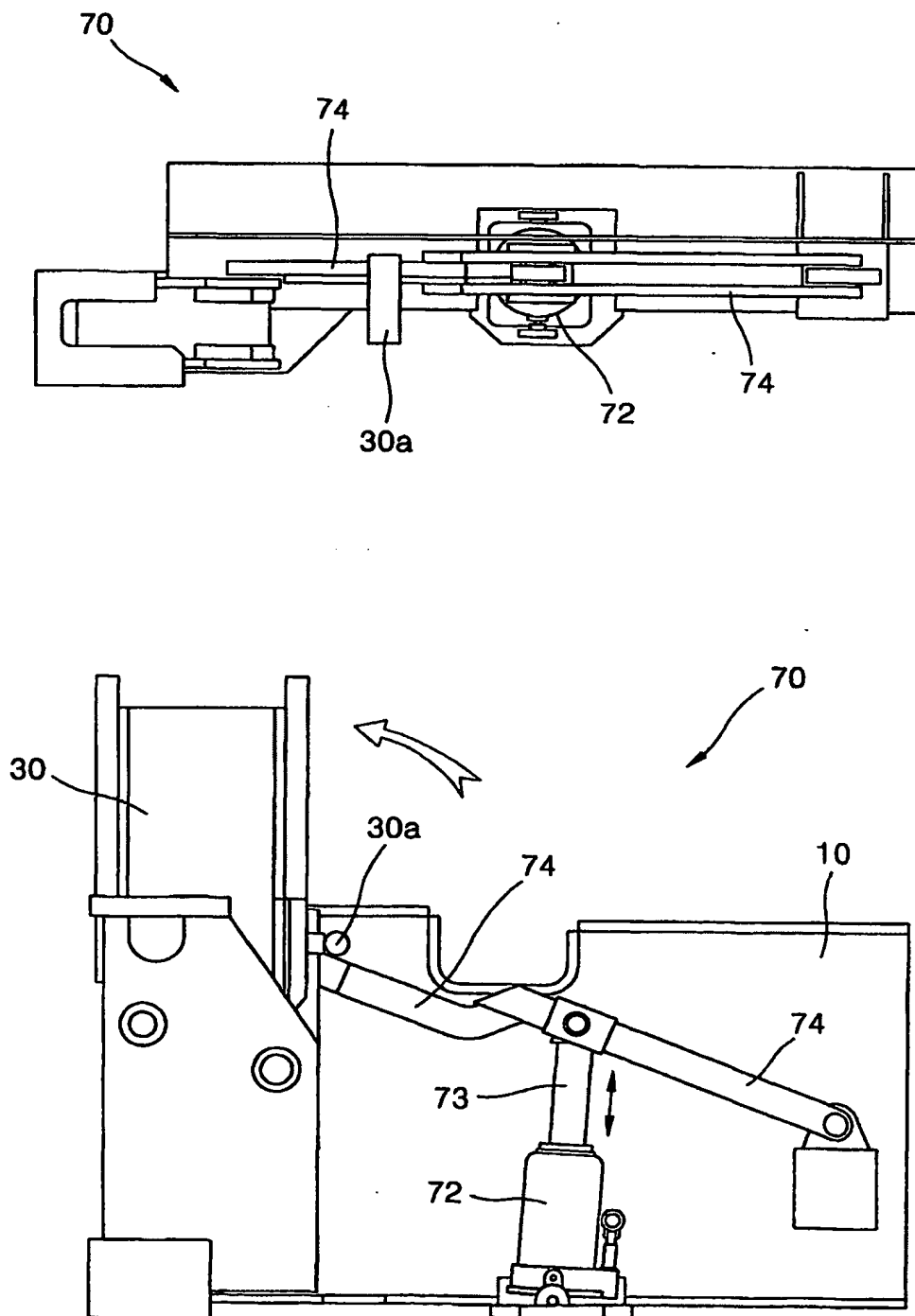
8/11
FIG. 8



9/11
FIG. 9



10/11
FIG. 10



11/11
FIG. 11

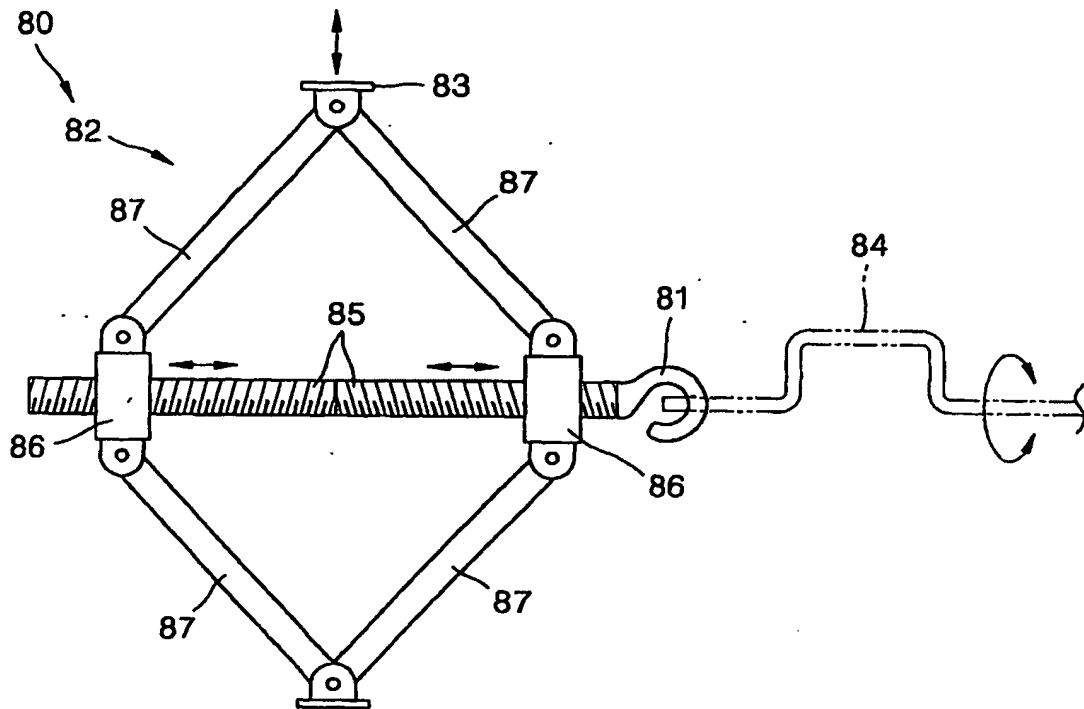
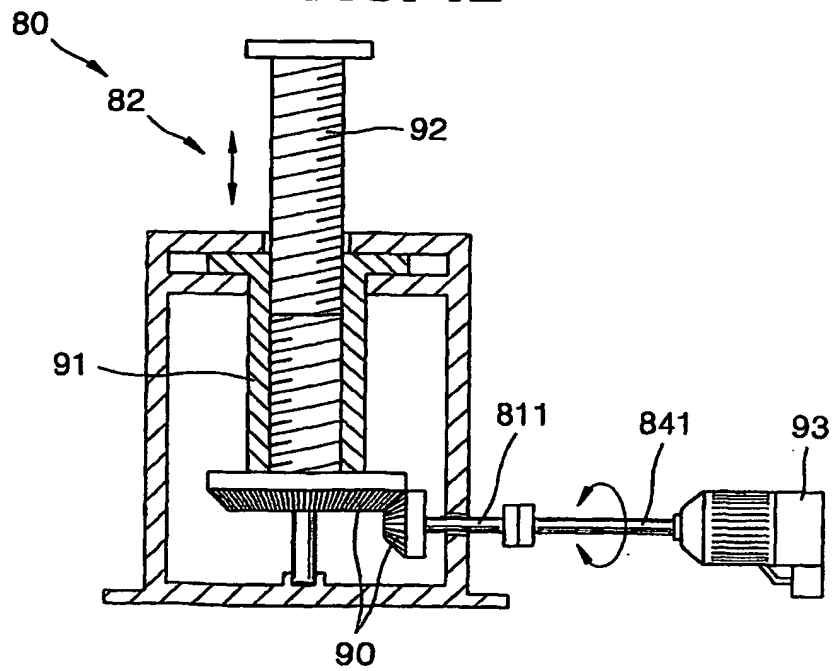


FIG. 12



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/KR02/00214

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7 B65D 88/12 B65D88/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7 B65D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

KR,JP:IPC as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

ESPACENET "container", "height adjustment"

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JP62159491 U (TOKYU CAR CORD.) 9 OCTOBER 1987 see Claim 1 figures 1,2,3,4,6	1,2,3,4,5,6
A	KR20000015443 U (KIM JEOM GYU) 25 JULY 2000 see Claim 1,2,3,4,5 figures 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10	1,2,3,4,5,6,

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

12 JUNE 2002 (12.06.2002)

Date of mailing of the international search report

14 JUNE 2002 (14.06.2002)

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